



Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
Office of Water Resources
Wastewater Treatment Facility Resiliency Plan Review Checklist

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance on preparing a Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) Resiliency Planning document (“the plan”) to the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM) for review and approval. Ensuring each of these items are addressed during the planning process will help to expedite DEM’s review and approval.

- Projects proposed in the plan are consistent with a current DEM-approved Wastewater Facilities Plan (FP), if applicable, or will be addressed in a future FP amendment or update.
- The plan takes into consideration the recommendations from the 2017 Woodard & Curran study: [Implications of Climate Change for RI Wastewater Collection & Treatment Infrastructure](#).
- The plan shall be consistent with DEM’s [Guidance for the Consideration of Climate Change Impacts in the Planning and Design of Municipal Wastewater Collection and Treatment Infrastructure](#) (Note: This guidance specifies that STORMTOOLS Design Elevations (SDEs) should be used for all resiliency planning and design in coastal areas, rather than FEMA BFEs.)
- All requirements outlined in the facility’s RIPDES permit are addressed in the plan, *including but not limited to:*
 - An assessment of current and projected impacts from natural hazards on critical components
 - A plan to adapt and protect vulnerable components and systems
 - An analysis that provides justification for selected adaptation methods, including relevant cost-benefit analyses
 - Consideration of component and system design life and sea-level rise projections
- The plan shall include a schedule of implementation for short-term (within the following two years) and long-term (beyond two years) actions/projects.
- Where it is necessary to maintain standby power during times of long-duration power grid outages, the need for additional fuel-storage capacity must be assessed.